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WE ARE...MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

April 3, 2013

Profile: Chris Atkins



One student wanted to go to Puerto Rico to sharpen her language skills in Spanish; another was headed to the University of California at Monterey Bay to see if she really wanted a career as a marine biologist. Both were thrilled to learn that they could explore their options as Marshall students while living and taking classes on distant U.S. campuses.

Chris Atkins, academic counselor and coordinator of the National Student Exchange program, is eager to get word out about this program and its benefits and, he says, its surprising affordability. “NSE is a kind of domestic study-away program, much like study abroad except it takes place within the U.S. and its territories, plus a few schools in Canada that participate,” he explains. “NSE is a consortium of schools that pay a membership fee in order to give

opportunities to students to participate. Students can go to other member institutions for up to two semesters or for just one if they choose.”

And they go for a variety of reasons. Some, like the student who went to California, want to ensure they’re on the right career path; some want to explore other parts of the country for potential careers; some want to scope out graduate opportunities before they make a commitment; others want to expand personal growth and horizons; and some are just looking for a change of scenery and maybe some adventure. But whatever the reasons, Atkins is determined to make it happen and as economically as possible.

“The biggest perk of NSE, the very best part, is that it allows us to enroll participants as Marshall students and that means that their tuition and fees are paid as MU students paying in-state tuition. We can also continue financial aid and students who have scholarships, such as PROMISE, or [who are] recipients of grants such as Pell or West Virginia Higher Education, can continue to apply them. There’s actually very little difference in what a student would pay to attend Marshall and say, Cal Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo, where we had a student last semester,” Atkins says. “Students can fan out across the country and attend schools that are NSE members at virtually the same cost they would be paying here. Room and board is cheaper at some institutions and more expensive at others, but usually it’s relatively close. People think going to

out-of-state institutions is costly, but with this program it isn't. It's actually very affordable. The one big difference would be travel costs."

The qualifications for a study exchange are relatively simple: students must have a 2.5 grade point average and be in good financial and social standing with the university. Study can be in any discipline and Atkins admits some academic areas are easier to study in than others. As the coordinator he's diligent about making sure credits from the host institutions will transfer to Marshall. "We're very strict in that regard prior to students leaving on an exchange," he says. "The last thing we want would be for a student to get behind because of this opportunity. We send out an average of 12-15 students a year but this is such a great program, I'd like to get that number a lot higher."

And just as MU students spread their academic wings throughout the country, the university also plays hosts to others who want to come to West Virginia. "We have exchange students from all over," Adkins says. "This semester we have two: a student from SUNY at Buffalo, N.Y., and another from the University of Quebec at Montreal in Canada. Last semester we had one from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and recently a student was here from Puerto Rico. They come from all parts of the U.S. and it's an enriching experience, not only for the exchange students but for our students as well."

Students are "placed" at NSE's annual national convention, which took place the first week in March in Orlando, Fla. "We spend several days swapping students, trying to get them in the institutions they've chosen. There's a lot of excitement. Marshall has an open policy, meaning we'll accept all the qualified students who want to come; we don't cap the number. Other schools for various reasons are known as 'even' institutions because they have some constraints and will only accept the number of students they exchange. I always ask our students to list their top five institutions and I do everything I can to get them placed at their choices but I can't guarantee anything. So far I've been successful in placing them at their selections. Overall NSE has an excellent placement rate. For example, at the 2012 convention which was held in Anchorage, Alaska, there was an 86% placement rate nationally. We placed more than 2800 students through 200 schools."

Each participating institution has a designated NSE coordinator and Atkins always advises students to seek out their host coordinator. They are fonts of information and can be of immeasurable help in getting students acclimated on their new campus, he says.

The NSE program actually started in the Honors College but switched to University College, where Atkins is an academic counselor, a few years ago, he says. A two-time Marshall graduate with a B.A. and M.A. in journalism, he worked for several years as a photographer and producer for WSAZ in Huntington in their news division. It was fun and exciting, but the irregular and often very long hours, many of them in the middle of the night, grew wearying and with his marriage, he decided a career change was in order. "It was a fantastic job, I really loved it, but I had to work a lot of evenings and nights and you never knew what you'd be called on to cover. I made a bargain with my wife, Allie, that if I was going on an assignment that could be considered dangerous, I'd let her know ahead of time. She didn't want to learn about a bad situation from watching TV. And one of the very last stories I covered before I left was a pipe

bomb incident in the middle of the night where the whole bomb squad was called out. I knew right then I'd made the right decision to go to an 8-5 job!"

His new job was actually at Marshall, working a front counter for the Financial Aid office. After a few months he left to take on the dual role as academic counselor and NSE coordinator. Today he also does video work for the athletic department, doing video screens for both basketball and football. "It allows me to keep my hand in journalism and also to keep up with the gear," he says. He also teaches an introduction to video production class for the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

His role as academic counselor finds him working with the conditionally admitted students who make up University College. "These are students whose test scores and high school GPAs do not meet Marshall's admission criteria. Many don't know what to expect from college; they don't understand that there are rules and consequences if you don't follow them. There are many who struggle. We have them as advisees for a maximum of three semesters to get them to the point where they can become fully admitted students. There are three of us advisors, Trish Gallagher and Amber Bentley, plus our director, Sherri Stepp. They're all fantastic, and we all have different personalities and styles, which actually works out well, because we have students with all kinds of different personalities as well. What will work with one doesn't necessarily work with another. I'm known as 'the warden,' Atkins says laughing, "because I enforce a kind of tough love. I tell my advisees I expect a lot from them and they can expect the same from me, so yes, I can be tough. But the goal for all of us is to see the students move on and prosper."

Right now Chris and Allie are excitedly awaiting the upcoming birth of their first child later this spring. They're very family oriented, with lots of visits to her family on their large farm in Gilmer County and to his family in Spencer in Roane County, where he grew up. It's a good life these days, opening horizons for students by offering them a chance to temporarily dip into other academic pools, maybe far from home and comfort zones. And best of all, no more middle-of-the-night bomb squad calls!

President of the Institute for Women's Policy Research to speak Friday



Dr. Heidi Hartmann, president of the Institute for Women's Policy Research (IWPR), will give a presentation Friday, April 5, at the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

The event, which begins at 7 p.m., will serve as the keynote address for the STAND for Women conference, and is free and open to the public.

“This is an amazing opportunity for the students at Marshall and the women of West Virginia to have here on campus an internationally recognized voice advocating for women-centered research and policy,” said Dr. Kat Williams, who is a member of the Women’s Studies Advisory Board and was instrumental in bringing the speaker to campus.

Hartmann is an economist, with a B.A. from Swarthmore College and M. Phil and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University, all in economics. She also is a research professor at The George Washington University. The IWPR is a Washington-based, scientific research organization that Hartmann founded in 1987 to meet the need for women-centered, policy-oriented research.

Hartmann lectures internationally on women, economics and public policy, frequently testifies before the U.S. Congress, and is often cited as an authority in various media outlets, such as CNN, ABC News, *The New York Times*, and the NewsHour. She has published numerous articles in journals and books and her work has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

She is a coauthor of several IWPR reports and served as the chair of the Board of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Prior to founding IWPR, Hartmann was on the faculties of Rutgers University and the New School for Social Research and worked at the National Research Council/National Academy of Sciences. In 1994, she received a MacArthur Fellowship Award for her work in the field of women and economics. She also received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Swarthmore College, an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Claremont Graduate University, the Wilbur Cross Medal for distinguished alumni of the graduate school of Yale University, and the 2012 Women of Vision Award from the National Organization for Women.

A reception will follow the event. For more information, contact Dr. Greta Rensenbrink, director of women’s studies, at rensenbrink@marshall.edu.

STEM educator to give keynote at Ivy Academy II Friday



Dr. Stephanie G. Adams, a speaker and consultant for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, will give the keynote address for the Ivy Academy II Leadership Conference Friday, April 5, on the Huntington campus.

More than 85 area young women in grades 8-12 have registered to attend the conference, which focuses on leadership and self-esteem for girls. The day’s activities will begin at 9 a.m. with a university information fair, followed by interactive workshops. Adams’ keynote address will take place

at the event luncheon, and the day's events are expected to conclude by 1:30 p.m.

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Adams is the department head and professor of engineering education at Virginia Tech University, and is also a motivational speaker/consultant for STEM education. She has worked with a number of colleges and universities, government agencies and nonprofit organizations on topics related to graduate education, mentoring, faculty development and diversifying STEM. Adams is an honor graduate of North Carolina A&T State University, where she earned her B.S. in Mechanical Engineering in 1988. In 1991, she was awarded the Master of Engineering degree in Systems Engineering from the University of Virginia. She received her Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Engineering from Texas A&M University in 1998.

The Ivy Academy is sponsored by Fifth Third Bank, and will be hosted by Marshall University Multicultural Affairs in collaboration with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.

Kelli Kerbawy named Employee of the Month



Kelli Kerbawy, office administrator/academic advisor in the College of Liberal Arts, has been named the Marshall University employee of the Month for November, according to Michelle Brown Douglas, chair of the Employee of the Month Committee.

Employed at Marshall since 2006, Kerbawy was nominated by Dean David J. Pittenger and Associate Dean Kellie Bean.

They explain that she conducts an audit for students who are rising juniors and seniors and then meets with them to review the requirements they will need to be eligible to graduate. This is an extremely important task, they wrote, because "As a result of her good work our students are not surprised during their last semester by learning that they will need to enroll in additional courses to graduate."

They cite her skill and compassion in working with sometimes agitated students who have concerns about transfer credits, degree requirements and other academic matters. "Her calm authority over the facts and her patience allows students to leave the office content that they have been fairly treated and understand the degree requirements," Pittenger and Bean wrote.

In addition, they said, "Kelli is also quick to bring to our attention problems she sees...and solutions for making our systems operate more efficiently. Perhaps one of her greatest contributions was the oversight of the implementation of DegreeWorks for the

college...programming and testing DegreeWorks is a very complex task! Kelli did an outstanding job of organizing this hydra system. Our students now have a powerful tool to help them track their academic programs.”

And, the nomination concludes, “Kelli is a genuinely nice person. She cares about our students. She cares about her colleagues in the department. As such she is an ideal colleague whom we admire.”

Kerbawy was presented with a plaque and a check for \$100 by President Stephen J. Kopp.

Photo: Kelli Kerbawy (left) receives her Employee of the Month award from President Kopp.

Matt Hayes is new executive director of alumni relations at Marshall



Marshall University’s new executive director of alumni relations knew at a very young age where he would attend college.

“I knew when I was in the sixth grade that I would be coming to Marshall University,” said Matt Hayes, who officially started his new position with Marshall on March 18.

Hayes came to Marshall from New Martinsville and earned a bachelor’s degree in business management in 1994 and a master’s degree in safety technology in 1997. Now, he’s come to Marshall again, this time to take on a job he refers to as “the opportunity of a lifetime.”

“I am absolutely thrilled to be here,” said Hayes. “Just to have the opportunity to give back and to serve Marshall University ... I couldn’t ask for anything else.”

Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the Marshall University Foundation, said he likes what he sees of Hayes. “Matt’s a strong alum. He has great enthusiasm, great energy and extensive corporate experience. He’ll help take us to the next level in the alumni association. He is passionate about Marshall University. He really wants to make a difference. He’s going to grow into the position very nicely.”

Hayes came to Marshall from Wells Fargo Insurance. Previously he was at Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Altria, Premier Farnell Corp., and The Herald-Dispatch. Many of those positions, he said, provided him the opportunity to develop specialized skills in meeting the needs of clients as well as building and maintaining strong business relationships.

Area said Hayes, who has lived in the Huntington area for the past 23 years, has “hit the ground running” at Marshall.

“The alumni association is going to do a lot of great things,” Hayes said. “We are reaching out to connect with the student population, to increase their familiarity with the alumni association, and to let them know about the opportunities they have to be involved.

“We are working on strengthening our clubs around the country and can’t wait to meet as many of our alumni as possible. Alumni Weekend will be here in about five weeks and we are looking forward to showcasing our great university. I plan to spend time with our deans and faculty so I can share more of the Marshall story as I visit with alumni. I am very optimistic about the future.”

Hayes is involved in numerous community organizations, including Rotary Club of Barboursville, CONTACT of Huntington, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Tri-State, Norway Avenue Church of Christ, Huntington City Mission, Huntington Chamber of Commerce and Milton Middle School. He and his wife, Stephanie, also a Marshall graduate, are the parents of two children, Jadon and Kaylin.

Hayes was born in Wheeling and raised in New Martinsville, graduating from Magnolia High School in 1989.

“I knew very early that Marshall was where I wanted to be,” Hayes said. “This is home.”

Low brass ensembles to perform Friday at Johnson Memorial

The Marshall University School of Music and Theatre’s low brass ensembles will present a concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 5, at Johnson Memorial Methodist Church, which is located at 513 10th St. in Huntington.

Tubonium, directed by Dr. George Palton, who teaches tuba, will perform *Dances* by John Stevens, *Preghiera* by Anthony O’Toole and Palton’s arrangement of Tchaikovsky’s *Marche Slav*.

The 17-member Trombone Choir, under the direction of Dr. Michael Stroeher, professor of trombone, will perform works by Mendelssohn, Haydn and Gershwin, among others.

The concert is free and open to the public. For further information, contact the School of Music and Theatre at ext. 6-3117.

Med school faculty to speak at drug prevention summit April 11

Two Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine faculty members, Dr. David G. Chafin Jr., professor and director of the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Dr. Sean Loudin, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics and Pediatric Clerkship Director, will be guest speakers at the annual Cabell County Drug Prevention Summit Thursday, April 11.

In addition, two members of the School of Pharmacy faculty, Dr. John Schloss, professor and chair of the department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Research, and Dr. Robert Stanton, associate professor and assistant dean of Experiential Learning, served on the planning committee for the event.

The summit will take place from 1 to 4:30 p.m. in the Big Sandy Superstore Arena Center in downtown Huntington. Topics will include exposed pregnancies, fetal alcohol exposure and prescription drug misuse/abuse.

Dr. Lenard W. Kaye, Professor in the University of Maine School of Social Work and director of that university's Center on Aging, will also speak.

The event is free and open to the public. To register, or for more information, call (304) 523-8929, ext. 5 or 9.

Marshall to host 900 scientists next week at Association of Southeastern Biologists meeting

Marshall University will host the 74th Annual Meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists next week in Charleston.

The meeting will bring 900 researchers, university faculty members and students from 20 states and Washington, D.C., to the Charleston Civic Center April 10-13.

Dr. Chuck Somerville, dean of the College of Science, is a member of Marshall's planning group and will welcome participants at the opening session. He said hosting the conference is a good opportunity to showcase Marshall and West Virginia.

"It's very exciting that Marshall is the host institution for this year's meeting," he said. "This is a high-quality scientific conference with close to 1,000 attendees. We are excited about welcoming our colleagues to West Virginia and are looking forward to both the scientific sessions and showing our visitors some of the beautiful natural attractions in our region."

Somerville said presentations will focus on the latest research conducted by association members and will cover a wide range of topics.

“Biology is a diverse field. We’ll have presentations about everything from a study of efforts to restore the American chestnut tree in central Appalachia to elk habitat use in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to crayfish and centipedes in West Virginia,” he added. “We’ve also got people who will present cutting-edge genetics and cancer research.”

In addition to learning about current research, Somerville said meeting attendees will participate in field trips to Kanawha State Forest, New River Gorge, the Huntington Museum of Art plant conservatory, West Virginia State University’s microbiology fermentation facility and Carter Caves.

Conference planners estimate the regional economic impact of the conference at \$900,000.

The Association of Southeastern Biologists membership includes 1,400 members from 42 states and 13 countries.

For more information about next week’s meeting, visit www.sebiologists.org or contact Somerville at ext.6-2424 or somervil@marshall.edu.

New scholarship at Marshall honors founding dean of College of Science



A scholarship has been established in honor of E.S. “Steve” Hanrahan, former chair of the Marshall University department of chemistry and the founding dean of MU’s College of Science, who passed away on Feb. 20. He was 83.

The recipient of the Dr. E. S. “Steve” Hanrahan Scholarship will be a full-time or part-time sophomore who is majoring in chemistry and has the greatest increase in overall GPA from the freshman to sophomore year. It is

a one-time award.

“My father, Steve Hanrahan, was always focused on helping students academically succeed,” said Elizabeth Hanrahan, associate dean in Marshall’s College of Information Technology and Engineering. “I heard recently from one of his former students who was struggling in their chemistry course, and they talked with my father who convinced them to keep persevering. That

former student had a 35-year career in chemistry. My father would have been delighted for a scholarship to be awarded in his name for the most improved chemistry student.”

Steve Hanrahan joined Marshall as assistant professor in 1963. He served as chair of the chemistry department from 1967 through 1977 and in 1977 became the first dean of the College of Science. He stepped down as dean in 1994, and retired in 1997.

In addition to Elizabeth Hanrahan, he is survived by his wife, Mary, his daughters Veronica Hanrahan Heide and Katherine Hanrahan, and daughter by choice Emma Surratt Walters. All are Marshall graduates.

Anyone wishing to donate to the scholarship may contact Rick Robinson in the Marshall Foundation by phone at ext.6-7081, or by e-mail at robisor@marshall.edu.

Rec Center to host ‘kids’ night out’ Friday

The Marshall Recreation Center will host a special night out for kids from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 5. This program is available to parents who would like some time to themselves to shop, see a movie, or get some things done around the house.

The children will be entertained in a fun, safe environment where they will experience climbing on the Rec Center’s rock wall, swimming in the indoor pool, playing ball on the courts and having a pizza party with all their new friends. Children ages 4-12 are welcome.

The deadline to register is Thursday, April 4. Parents are asked to register their children in advance, as space is limited. The cost for members is \$15 (\$10 for each additional sibling), and the cost for non-members is \$20 (\$15 for each additional sibling).

Cash, credit cards or checks made out to the Campus Rec Club will be accepted.

Forms and waivers for this event can be found on www.marshallcampusrec.com. Parents are asked to return the forms to the Marshall Recreation Center Welcome Desk. For more information, call Dan Belcher, facility operations coordinator, at ext.6-4651.

Final two Amicus Curiae lectures to take place in April



The final two lectures in the 2012-2013 *Amicus Curiae* lecture series focusing on the U.S. Constitution and important matters in the nation's political process, will take place Monday, April 8 and Thursday, April 18. Both events will take place at 7 p.m. in Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center.

The *Amicus Curiae* Lecture Series on Constitutional Democracy is sponsored by Marshall's Simon Perry Center for Constitutional Democracy with financial support from the West Virginia Humanities Council.

On Monday, April 8, Cliff Sloan, who has served in all three branches of the federal government, will speak about Chief Justice John Marshall's most famous ruling, *Marbury v. Madison*, which established the U. S. Supreme Court as the final arbiter of whether a law is constitutional.

In his presentation, "Jefferson, Adams, Marshall, and the Battle for the Supreme Court," Sloan addresses the political drama that surrounded the decision, a drama that pitted President Thomas Jefferson against the Supreme Court, led by his cousin, Chief Justice John Marshall. The Chief Justice's resolution of the political fight allowed Jefferson to win the battle while losing the war as Marshall's "Great Decision" established that the Supreme Court would be equal in power to the other two branches of government and would play a key role in shaping the destiny of the nation.

Sloan graduated *magna cum laude* from both Harvard College and Harvard Law School and was Supreme Court clerk for Justice John Paul Stevens. He also served as Associate Counsel to the President and Assistant to the Solicitor General. He is now a partner in the law firm Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in Washington, D.C., and litigates cases at all levels of the state and federal courts. Sloan is co-author, with David McKean, of *The Great Decision*, a book about the historic *Marbury v. Madison* ruling.

On Thursday, April 18, with the U.S. Supreme Court poised to decide the constitutionality of both California's ban on same-sex marriage and the Federal Defense of Marriage Act, Gregory Friel, an alumnus of Marshall and a prominent civil rights attorney in Washington, D.C., will review the long history of anti-gay discrimination in this country.

Both lectures are free and open to the public. Each *Amicus Curiae* lecture is approved for one hour of West Virginia MCLE general credit.

Photo: Cliff Sloan will speak on the Amicus Curiae lecture series April 8.

Annual Schmidlapp Lecture to feature Dr. Sarah Fatima Waheed



This year's Women's Studies' Schmidlapp Distinguished Lectureship features Dr. Sarah Fatima Waheed, who will speak on "Sexual Violence and Women's Activism in the 21st Century: the Anti-rape Protests of India", on Thursday, April 11 at 7 p.m. in the Shawkey Dining Room in the Memorial Student Center.

Waheed is a historian who specializes in modern south Asia, particularly progressive literary politics in India and Pakistan in linkages between anti—colonial and internationalist movements between Asia and the Middle East in the period of decolonization. She has taught at Mount Holyoke College, George Mason University and Georgetown University.

The lecture series is sponsored by the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, which is administered by Fifth Third Bank.

Department of Classics to present annual lecture April 12

The Classics department is hosting Professor Timothy McNiven from The Ohio State University for the annual Eta Sigma Phi talk on April 12, 3:00 p.m. in Harris Hall 102.

His talk is titled "Monsters Are Good to Think With: Monsters in ancient Greek and Modern American culture." Everyone is invited to attend this talk and discussion, according to Dr. Christina Franzen, acting chair of the Department of Classics.

STAND for Women Conference set for April 6 at Pullman Hotel; Women's Studies program is host

The Marshall University Women's Studies Program will host the biennial STAND for Women Conference on Saturday, April 6, at the Pullman Plaza Hotel in downtown Huntington.

Dr. Greta Rensenbrink, director of the Women's Studies Program and conference organizer, said the event was conceived as a conference about women and issues relevant to women's lives, and is intended for community members, activists, faculty and students.

With the theme “Weaving Communities, Crossing Boundaries,” the works presented at the conference are an examination of the ways multiple identity positions shape and constrain women’s experiences. Presentations at the conference will look at both the historical roots of women’s activism and present-day activists. They also will examine the global context of women’s lives, as well as the personal and political consequences of policies that affect women.

“Our conference committee has worked to bring together a diverse group of speakers and presenters, with a special emphasis on creating a dynamic and engaged place for students to present their work,” Rensenbrink said. “We celebrate the contributions of new voices in academia and activism. The interdisciplinary perspective and diversity of participating voices promise an exciting and challenging event.”

Weekend events for the conference actually kick off at 7 p.m. on Friday at the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center, with a discussion by keynote speaker Dr. Heidi Hartmann, who is president of the Washington-based Institute for Women’s Policy Research and is an expert on issues of pay equity, fair housing and education. She will be speaking about the status of women in the United States and specifically in West Virginia. A reception will follow.

The opening session Saturday will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the conference will end at 5:30 p.m. At lunch, author Sue Williams Silverman will give a talk about her most recent book, “Fearless Confessions: A Writer’s Guide to Memoir,” in which she explores how she found her own creative voice and why memoir can help lead to both personal and communal salvation.

The conference will end with a viewing of Blis Devault’s 2011 documentary, “Roller Derby Queens,” starting at 3:45 p.m. The film follows several veterans and one rookie skater from the Cincinnati Rollergirls team, exploring the many often-surprising dimensions of what derby means to the women involved. A panel discussion with members of the Jewel City Rollergirls, the local derby team, will take place after the film.

Seventy people representing six states (West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois) and Washington, D.C., are registered for the conference. Space is still available. Those who want to register can find registration forms and instructions on the Women’s Studies website at <http://www.marshall.edu/wpmu/womenstu>. For more information, contact Rensenbrink at rensenbrink@marshall.edu.

MU Foundation establishes need-based Shewey Family Scholarship Program



The Shewey Family Scholarship Program, which will benefit students in four West Virginia counties and one county in Kentucky, has been established by the Marshall University Foundation, according to Dr. Ron Area, CEO of the foundation.

The need-based awards will go to full-time Marshall students who have at least 3.0 GPAs and financial need as defined by the Office of Student Financial Assistance. First preference will be for students who have participated in programs of the Shewey Research and Learning Center in Mingo County, which was established in 2007. Second preference will be for students from Mingo, Logan, McDowell or Wayne counties in West Virginia, or Martin County in Kentucky.

“The Shewey family continues to be generous friends of Marshall and I know Fred and Christine would be very proud to see this important student scholarship program become a reality,” said President Stephen J. Kopp. “We are very thankful for this gift, which will benefit students from five southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky counties who have chosen to pursue their dreams of a four-year college education at Marshall University. We have faithfully served this part of Appalachia for many years and we are very pleased to announce the special opportunity provided by the Shewey Family Scholarship Program for the sons and daughters of this region.”

The first annual installment of \$60,000 – which funds four students per academic year – was received for the program from the C. Frederick Shewey Charitable Lead Annuity Trust in December. The program will continue for a 20-year period ending in December 2031, and the total distributed by that time will be \$1.2 million.

“The Sheweys were so close to the people of those areas,” Area said. “Now, to provide scholarship assistance for these kids for 20 years is unbelievable. The impact is really hard to put into words. It is absolutely incredible for these kids, for these counties and for Marshall University.”

Bill Shewey, son of late Mingo County business and education leader C. Frederick Shewey, said the scholarship was established from his father’s estate.

“My father was not a scholarly person. But he was very smart,” Bill Shewey said. “He very much believed in education, which he demonstrated by serving on the Mingo County Board of Education for about 24 years. He particularly wanted to do something for students in these four counties in West Virginia and one in Kentucky.”

One requirement of a student receiving the scholarship is that he or she lives on campus in a residence hall during the full term of the scholarship. The award is for tuition, fees, books and campus room and board. No particular major is required of the recipient.

“My father died a little over a year ago and this was part of his wishes,” Bill Shewey said. “He would love this. There are so few opportunities for many kids that have the ability but don’t have the finances. My parents wanted to make sure they could leave something for the children of West Virginia. This would definitely make them both very happy.”

The first four scholarship recipients are expected to attend their first classes at Marshall this fall.

Photo: From left, James D. Thornburg, Bill Shewey, Dr. Ron Area, Bob Shewey, President Stephen J. Kopp and Gary White pose for a photo around an oversize check for \$1.2 million presented to the Marshall Foundation in a ceremony at the Marshall University Foundation Hall, home of the Erickson Alumni Center. The \$1.2 million will be given over a 20-year period by the C. Frederick Shewey Charitable Lead Annuity Trust. Thornburg and White are co-trustees of the trust, Bill and Bob Shewey are sons of the late C. Frederick Shewey.

‘Project Night Night’ collecting blankets this month

As part of Project Night Night, a national organization whose mission is to provide comfort to homeless and underprivileged children, new baby-sized blankets are being collected during April to be put into tote bags that will go to the Huntington City Mission, Branches domestic violence shelter and the Ronald McDonald House, according to Elizabeth Sheets, director of the Marshall Office of Community Engagement.

Tote bags, each filled with a new stuffed toy, blanket and book, will be distributed to those agencies. The age range is from infant to 10 years old. Donations can be dropped off at the Community Engagement Office in room 2W23 in the Memorial Student Center.

There was a drive to collect stuffed toys during March and those donations are still being welcomed, Sheets said. While the concentration is to collect blankets during April and books during May, any of these items can be donated at any time.

Sheets says she saw an article about Project Night Night in a magazine about a year ago and as the mother of a 4-year-old daughter, knew how much comfort and contentment her favorite stuffed animals and books brought to her. After doing some research, Sheets decided to bring the program to the Huntington campus, where the project is totally dependent on donations to keep it going. Student organizations Gamma Beta Phi, Alpha Xi Delta and Pi Kappa Phi have pitched in to help with the project.

“If we can provide comfort to children in stressful situations, we have done the job we set out to do,” Sheets said.

Faculty, staff invited to participate in yard sale April 20

A student yard sale will take place Saturday, April 20, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. between the Henderson Center and the tennis courts on the Huntington campus. Faculty and staff are invited to participate as well. In case of rain, tents will be provided. Registration must be completed at www.tinyurl.com/studentyardsale by April 13.

Items for sale can include clothing, appliances, furniture, books, cookware, housewares, etc. Clothing racks are permitted. For more information, contact okane@live.marshall.edu.

[Click to view event flyer.](#)

Closing lecture by artist Kaz McCue set for Friday, April 5

Visiting sculptor and installation artist Kaz McCue, who has been featured in a solo exhibition at Marshall University's Gallery 842 since March 1, will present a closing lecture at 5 p.m. Friday, April 5, in Smith Hall room 154. April 5 is also the last day of his exhibition.

McCue is known as a staunch advocate for the arts and has been recognized throughout his career for community involvement and his efforts to enhance access and participation in the arts.

Gallery 842 is located at 842 4th Ave. in Huntington, W.Va.

The next issue of We Are...Marshall will be distributed April 10, 2013. Please send any materials for consideration to [Pat Dickson](#) by noon, April 8.